7/12/62 – "On July 2, 1962, Raul Castro... arrived in Moscow... Either before or after his arrival, a 'decision' that Soviet nuclear missiles were to be secretly ~~[illegible]~~ installed in Cuba in the fall" Sch. 795

^By late July "entirely undescribed" "Soviet shipments began to arrive" and "Three weeks later
The CIA sent an urgent report" to JFK of "something new & different" in Soviet aid (Sch797)

8/25/62 - McCone figured buildup for "offensive missiles (A 17-18)

S672

8/29 SAMs "first spotted" western end of Cuba (S672)
U-2 flight of 8/29 "showed clear evidence of SAM sites under construction" (Sch798)
(no indication of where in Cuba)

9/4/62 Rusk "brought over the draft of the warning" about missiles in Cuba; note that the A.G. "recommended stiffening" / no indication of whether a 'hard warning' used (Sch 798)

~~Dobrynin~~ Dobrynin gave AG Kh's assurances represented as creating no incidents until after elections (Sch 798)

5672

9/5 U-2 flight (S692)(Sch790)

9/10/62. Committee on Overhead Recon mtg. in Bundy's office (425) re downing of Chiang U-2

9/11/62 - Moscow warning of ~~[illegible]~~ retaliation against any attack on Cuba (Ds 799, A20)

~~S 672~~

9/11 U-2 flight. Photography unusable because of "bad weather between 9/5 & 9/26. Is it possible there were 21 continuous uninterrupted days when there was, for no part of the day, weather that permitted photography? It would be nice to know Cuban weather reports. And close as Cuba is to U.S., closely as Cuba was patrolled by Navy & A F, was it not known before this flight that the weather precluded photography? (S 672)

9/11 - USSR warning it would retaliate against any attack on Cuba (A 20, Sch 798-9)

9/13/62 - JFK warning re "offensive" Soviet capability in Cuba at press conference (Sch 799)
JFK "asked Congress for standby authority to call up the ~~[illegible]~~ reserves"/Sch 799

9/17/62 - U-2 flight (Sec 799; A25)

5472

9/26 U2 flight (SC72)/Sch 799)(A25)

~~5672~~

9/29 U-2 flight (5672)

10/1/62 - Issue of "Aviation Week & Space Technology" of this date quotes "Pentagon strategists" as considering "arms buildup in Cuba the first step toward eventual construction of intermediate-range ballistic missle emplacements" (A14)

10/4/62 "The intelligence community ... recommended ... a U-2 flight over western Cuba (see 800)," approved on October 10".
Abel's version (A-26) McCone returned from honeymoon to learn no aerial recon Western Cuba, asked all island be covered.

S672✓

10/5 U-2 flight (S672)(Sih299)(A25)

~~S07V~~

10/7 U-2 flight (S672)(Sch799)(A25)

S672

10/9 Pres authorized U-2 flight (each individually required his auth.) S672)
10/10f U-2 flight auth. 10/9 & delayed by "bad weather" make over western Cuba (S672)

~~S672~~

10/10 - Sen Keating "first asserted missiles in Cuba (S672)
Recommencement of U-2 flights over Western Cuba, made 10/4,
approved (Sch 820) (H 8/25/64)

S673

10/15 – "between 8 & 10 pm" – "top CIA officials were notified" of "first rude beginnings" of missile base at San Cristobal
They notified "intelligence chiefs" of State, Defense, Bundy. (S673)
8:30 pm. Bundy is informed: Abel (30) (Sch 801)
Photo-analysts first told General Carter, who told DIA's gen Carroll (A30)
Hilsman told Rusk, who was at a fancy banquet (A32)

~~S673~~

10/16 around 9am Bundy notified, briefed Pres, (S673) 8:45 (Sch 801)
11 a.m. CIA GENERAL MARSHALL CARTER, Dep. Dir. briefed Pres.
showed pix. (S674)
11:45 Report for Pres & other officials (S674) — "throughout the island" (S673)
Pres ordered "further photography"
p.m. Mtg in State Dept (S673)
6:30 " " " Cabinet Room, White House (S673)

"afternoon" - Pentagon - McN & JCS alerted forces for Cuban action 1 week S678
" - State - discuss Soviet motives (S678), poss. actions (USIntBd here & at
every a.m. mtg. thereafter.
11:45 - First "Ex Com" mtg (Sch 802)
Vast Caribbean military buildup ordered (Sch 803)
EX Com seemed to fear Cuban Pearl Harbor (Sch 803)

10/17 - JFK flew to campaign appearance in Conn., LBJ to the West for the same purposes, in order to arouse no suspicions (S686) TS & RK met JFK at airport 8 p.m. for fill-in.

Ex Comm mtg 9 p.m. at State. (S686)

McNamara recommended blockade Sch 804)

10/18/62 "our afternoon meeting" in the State Dept - S 681-2

Ex Comm consensus veering toward blockade (S687)(Sch 805)

In afternoon, subcommittees set up to "plot each of the (2) major courses in detail (S688)

gromyko - JFK mtg (S689)
(Sch 805)

gromyko dinner State Dept 8 pm (S691) until after midnight (S692)

White House mtg 9 pm. Oval Room (S691)(Sch 805)
JFK ordered preparations for weapons blockade to be effective later (Sch 806)

After midnight Rusk & Thompson discussed W.H. mtg with Ball, Martin, Thompson (S692)

10/19/62 Carribean, Atlantic commanders alerted "against possible air attacks on the Panama Canal" etc (S 692)

JFK told TS JCS preferred air-strike or invasion but tentatively agreed to blockade in a.m. as JFK was leaving for pol. campaigning in midwest, west (S 692) But 691 indicates JFK decision Thurs night 10/18, as does Sch on 806

morning ex comm mtgs (S 692) (at State, 11 a.m. (Sch 806)

S "agreed" to do rough-draft of blockade speech (S 692) Finished at 3 a.m 10/20 (S 693)

Late p.m. mtg (a continuous, with people coming + going) (S 692) 4 o'clock (Sch 807)
Here Ex Com shifted back to support of blockade (Sch 807)

Pres's speech set for Sun night 10/21 (Sch 808) (But by Sat a.m. it was "evident that preparations would not be complete in time" - "decided to hold things for another day") (Sch 808)

British intelligence experts in Washington guessed something ~~afoot~~ our side (Sch 809)
NYT held story on JFK's request speculating accurately, Soviet missiles (Sch 809)

10/20/62 S finished draft blockade speech 3 a.m., "reviewed, amended and generally approved" by Ex-Comm + Pres. called back to Wash 10 a.m. (S 693)

In Chicago Salinger announced JFK returning because of cold. He's
HC landed on W H lawn 2½ hrs after call from RK at 1:30 p.m. (S 693)
Read draft speech prior to 2:30 Oval pm. mtg, which, for the first time, was convened as a mtg of the Nat. Sec. Council (the 505th) Blockade "approved (S 693)

Eisenhower h.c'd in the second McCone briefing. (S 697) V.P. brought back from Hawaii also with cold (S 697)

JCS advised all commands "to be prepared for possible mil action (S 697)
JFK presided over Sat p.m. Ex Com. (Sch 808) Final decision: blockade (Sch 808)
Rusk cancelled speech (Sch 809)
Wash was "alive with speculation + anticipation" (Sch 809)
~~Sch, Cleveland, Jos Sisco & Tho Wilson worked into a.m. of 21 on Stevenson's speech (Sch~~ (810)

10/21/62 TS finished 4th draft speech (SC97)
JFK conferred with Tactical Air Command chief Walter Sweeney, Jr + "others"
inc RK in "riding togs"

2:30 p.m. Second NSC mtg. (SC98)
AM "final conference with the military leaders convinced" JFK strike a mistake (Sch 802)
Sch., Cleveland, Jos Sisco, Tho. Wilson worked all day, until after midnight, on Stevenson
UN Speech (Sch 851)

10/22/62 12 pm Salinger announced speech "of highest nat. ~~[illegible]~~ urgency" for 7 pm (S700)

K spoke by phone to ex-pres' Hoover, Truman, Eisenhower; met "Ex Comm" in a.m. & "full Nat. Sec Council" at 3 p.m. with all JCS present; cabinet 4 pm. (S701)

(Cabinet mtg delayed by "long-scheduled" mtg with Prime Minister Obote of Uganda)

For. capitals, some ambassadors in Wash briefed. Dobrynin invited to see Rusk at 6 pm.. Amb. Kohler "delivered the same message" (unspecified) "a little later" (S701)

5 pm. W.H. briefing for key Congressional figures who had been called back from campaigning, ~~[illegible]~~ vacations, by air! (S702)

6 pm + White Pres. spoke, SAC + No. Amer. Air def units put on max alert.

US Resolution given to Sec-Council Pres Zorin

USIA broadcast speech in 38 languages

Pres okayed draft Stevenson's speech after 4 a.m.) (Sch 811)

5 pm. Pres saw Cong. leaders, many of whom had been flown in by AF, briefed them (Sch 812)

7 pm. JFK speech (Sch 812)

10/23/62 Sec. Council debate - Stevenson 4 p.m. (S7_)(Sch 813)
EX Comm mtgs 10 AM, 6 p.m. (S708) "quarantine" announced for next day
Letter from Kh. in a.m. alleging "piracy" (S709) ans. with restatement U.S. position
Appeals from U Thant (S708-9)
Robt K sent to Dobrynin, unsuccessfully, to learn if instruction had been issued to captains (S709)
Br. Amb. dined with Kennedy (Sch 817-8)
Kh. called on an Amer. singer performing in Moscow after the concert (Sch 821)

10/24/62 Letter from Kh. p.m. ("piracy") B709) Answered with restatement U.S. position
Quarantine in effect a.m. Reports of 6 Soviet subs joining ships (S709) Decided to [illegible]
mkt.
Kh. meeting with, warning to Knox (Sch. 821)
Report 16 of 18 USSR ships ~~st~~ ceased forward progress B710)
U Thant's proposal to allow for negotiations ~~negotiation~~ (Sch 820)
Kh's reply to Bertrand Russell (S.C. 1025, p10-TNT)

10/25/62 Some USSR ships reversed courses (S 710)
Ex Comm pondered ways of "increasing pressure" on Soviets (S 711)

JFK replied to U. Thant (Sch 822) (S.C. 10/25, p. 6)
"Half Soviet ships… making home (Sch 822)
First signs of "word" getting to Soviet diplomats (Sch 823)
Kh's reply to U. Thant (S.C. 10/25, p. 10)

10/26/62 Second U Thant proposal negotiated by Stevenson called on ~~[illegible]~~ both sides to avoid unnecessary contact during next few days. (S710)
7+ am First ship boarded, passed. (S.710)
Ex Comm considered ways of increasing "pressure on Soviets" (S 711)
Noon State Dept announcement of continuing work on missile sites referred to threat
~~[illegible]~~ in Pres. speech of "further action" (S712)
Fomin's call to Scali (see notes from Abel). Zorin's similar suggestion to U Thant;
Kh's letter to JFK (S712) (Sch 825-6) (A175-7) + Scali's reply from Rusk at 7:35

10/27/62 Kh's public letter – the Turkish missile one – upsets W.H., well received elsewhere (S 712) (Sch 827)
U-2 shot down, two low-level flights fired upon (S 713) (Sch 827)
U-2 BLUNDERED "DEEP" INTO SIBERIA (713) (Sch 828)
4:30 p.m. W.H. statement answer "dismissing" Kh's "public" letter (S 714)
8:00 pm. JFK's reply to Kh. made public while being transmitted thru channels (S 714)
Ex Comm in all-day session (714) with an ~~[illegible]~~ hour dinner break 5 p.m.
Began a.m. (Sch 827) & he indicates meeting was not continuous (Sch 828)
Rusk sent Scali back to Fomin (Sch. Calls "his Soviet contact") Sch 828
K's reply to Kh (Sch 829) (S 714) (A

10/28/62 Ex Comm mtg 10 a.m. (716) postponed until 11 after radio report from Moscow of agreement (716) in cabinet room

After 11 a.m. mtg began – letter drafted & sent publicly to Kh, prior to arrival of the official copy of his letter (578)

10/29/66 Ex Comm on mtg (S 718)